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**CLIENT:** U.S. Fish & Wildlife  
**PRODUCT:** Refuge Minute  
**FORMAT:** Radio  
**LENGTH:** :60  
**TITLE:** *The Great Crane Migration*  
**DATE:** July 17, 2009

**SPOKESPERSON:** This is another National Wildlife Refuge Minute...

**SFX: FLAPPING WINGS, CRANE CALLS**

**SPOKESPERSON:** The Great Crane Migration...

Every Winter, thousands of Sandhill Cranes fly to Merced National Wildlife Refuge in California's San Joaquin Valley.

**SFX: BABY BIRD CALLS, SPLASHING WATER**

**SPOKESPERSON:** Thousands of acres of wetlands provide these cranes with a natural source for food and shelter. Maintaining these wetlands is crucial for their survival.

**SFX: WATER SPLASHING, WINGS FLAPPING, BIRDS CALLING**

**SPOKESPERSON:** Watching these majestic cranes, with up to seven-foot wingspans, is one of nature's most breathtaking sights. If you're not already into bird watching, you will be after you see these big birds.

**SFX: WHISTLING WIND, WINGS FLAPPING**

**SPOKESPERSON:** And Sandhill Crane fossils have been discovered dating back over 2 ½ million years, making it one of nature's oldest birds.

**SFX: SWEEPING SAND, PICK AXES**

**SPOKESPERSON:** Every Wildlife Refuge is full of incredible experiences. With over 500 Refuges across the country, you don't have to go far to make a special connection with nature. Learn more at [fws.gov/refuges](http://fws.gov/refuges). That's [fws.gov/refuges](http://fws.gov/refuges).